

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MCT-01 HA-05 IO-13  
/100 W

-----079947 230230Z /70

R 221759Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9418  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PEPR EG IS  
SUBJECT: ISRAELI JOURNALISTS' VISIT CALLED OFF

SUMMARY. AS RESULT APPARENT MISHANDLING ON BOTH SIDES,  
ISRAELI DELEGATION FROM "NEW OUTLOOK" NOT ARRIVING MAY 22  
AS EXPECTED. SADAT HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO HOLDING OF  
SEMINAR AND MECHANICS WERE TO HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT WITH  
ROSE AL YUSUF. INSTEAD OF PREPARING FOR SEMINAR, "NEW  
OUTLOOK" DELEGATION EXPECTED TO HOLD SEMINAR AT THIS TIME.  
GOE BACKED OFF IN VIEW OF LACK OF ISRAELI RESPONSIVENESS  
TO SADAT PEACE INITIATIVE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MAY 18 STATEMENT MININFO AL SAWI DENIED NEWS  
AGENCY REPORTS FROM JERUSALEM THAT ISRAELI DELEGATION  
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SPONSORED BY "NEW OUTLOOK" MAGAZINE WOULD ARRIVE  
MAY 22 TO ATTEND SEMINAR ON PEACE. AL SAWI NOTED THAT  
ANY DIALOGUE WOULD BE MEANINGLESS UNTIL GOI EXPRESSES  
ITS ATTITUDE IN CLEARER TERMS AND RISES TO LEVEL OF SADAT  
PEACE INITIATIVE. AL SAWI SAID, UNDER THESE CIRCUM-  
STANCES, GOE CONSIDERS NO DIALOGUE EXISTING EITHER  
GOVERNMENTAL OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL. (MAY 19 AKHBAR HAD

REPORTED THAT ISRAELI LEFTIST INTELLECTUALS HAD ASKED TO VISIT EGYPT "TO STUDY POSSIBILITIES" OF HOLDING SEMINAR ON PEACE, NOT TO ATTEND SEMINAR.)

2. MAY 21 OCTOBER MAGAZINE CARRIES ITEM ON ISRAELI DELEGATION, BUT MAKES NO MENTION OF AL SAWI STATEMENT. OCTOBER IDENTIFIES GROUP AS PART OF "PEACE NOW" MOVEMENT, WHICH HAD ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO VISIT TO ASCERTAIN TRUE SITUATION IN CAIRO SINCE ISRAEL WAS MISLEADING PROPAGANDA APPARATUS CONCERNING EGYPTIAN ATTITUDES. OCTOBER VERSION MAKES NO MENTION OF ANY SEMINAR.

3. WE UNDERSTAND DELEGATION NOT COMING. MININFO U/S MURSI SA'D AL DIN TOLD PAO MAY 22 THAT SEMINAR IDEA GOES BACK TO "NEW OUTLOOK'S" CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM AT TIME OF SADAT VISIT. SADAT HAD SENT MESSAGE TO CONFERENCE AND MET WITH "NEW OUTLOOK" EDITORS IN JERUSALEM. THEY HAD PROPOSED SEMINAR IN CAIRO AND SADAT HAD AGREED. IT WAS LATER DECIDED ROSE AL YUSUF WOULD HOST SEMINAR WITH SUPPORT OF MFA AND "NEW OUTLOOK" GROUP WOULD COME TO WORK OUT MECHANICS. INSTEAD, ACCORDING TO MURSI, THEY ANNOUNCED THEY COMING TO CAIRO FOR SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE. (IN FACT, THIS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ACCURATE, SINCE SEMINAR APPARENTLY WAS SCHEDULED AT AHRAH STRATEGIC STUDIES CENTER.) WHEN SADAT LEARNED SEMINAR TO BE HELD, ACCORDING TO MURSI, HE TOLD AL SAWI TO ANNOUNCE THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE NOT POSSIBLE UNTIL CHANGE IN ISRAELI POSITION, BUT THEY WELCOME TO COME AS TOURISTS. WHEN ISRAELIS LEARNED OF AL SAWI'S STATEMENT, THEY CANCELED TRIP SINCE THEY DID NOT WISH TO COME AS TOURISTS.

4. COMMENT: AFFAIR SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MISHANDLED ON BOTH SIDES. SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE APPARENTLY EXPECTED ON EGYPTIAN AS WELL AS ISRAELI SIDE UNTIL LAST MINUTE. THIS BEING THE CASE, MURSI'S PARTING REMARK TO PAO ("ISRAELIS ALWAYS ATTEMPTING GIVE IMPRESSION THAT DIALOGUE CONTINUING, BUT EGYPT WILL NOT PLAY THAT GAME") SEEMS PARTICULARLY GRATUITOUS. MATTHEWS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JOURNALISTS, VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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